

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 06433 111749Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 IO-13 SP-02 /064 W
-----090801 111753Z /41

O 111650Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2966

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, VE
SUBJECT: GOV DENIES PERMISSION FOR PANAM FLIGHT

REF: A) CARACAS 6287, B) CARACAS 4243, C) CARACAS 3126
D) CARACAS 2527

1. GOV DIRECTOR GENERAL OF AIR TRANSPORT, GENERAL SUAREZ, HAS
INFORMED LOCAL PANAM REPRESENTATIVE THAT GOV WILL NOT PERMIT PAN-
AM TO OPERATE THE ONCE-A-WEEK NEW YORK-CARACAS-NEW YORK SUMMER
FLIGHT. THIS FLIGHT, A 747, OPERATES FROM JULY 22 THROUGH
SEPTEMBER 23 AND IS FULLY BOOKED.

2. THIS ACTION IS CONTRARY TO OUR BILATERAL AGREEMENT. THE
SCHEDULE FOR THIS FLIGHT WAS FILED WITH GOV ON MARCH 28. GOV
DID NOT REFUSE WITHIN THE ALLOTTED TIME. GOV DOES CLAIM THAT
42 DAYS LATER (AND WELL PAST THE ALLOTTED TIME) IT SENT A NOTE
ADVISING THE U.S. EMBASSY THAT THE SUMMER FLIGHT WOULD NOT BE
ALLOWED. THE EMBASSY NEVER RECEIVED THE NOTE AND HAS SO INFORMED
THE GOV. IN SPITE OF THESE ABOVE TWO FACTORS, OF WHICH THE GOV
IS FULLY AWARE, PERMISSION FOR THE SUMMER NEW YORK-CARACAS-NEW YORK
FLIGHT HAS NOW BEEN WITHDRAWN.

3. LOCAL PANAM REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE ADVISING PANAM HEAD-
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QUARTERS AND THEY NO DOUBT WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THE DEPARTMENT.

4. WE ARE TRYING TO REACH AMBASSADOR MARIANO TIRADO, OUR
CHANNEL FOR DISCUSSION ON THIS ISSUE. A REPORT OF THAT CON-
VERSATION WILL FOLLOW.

5. COMMENT: GOV CIVAIR AUTHORITIES REMAIN UNEASY AND DEFENSIVE

OVER EVENTS OF LAST SEVERAL MONTHS (REFTELS) AND PERCEIVE THAT
THEY STILL HAVE LEGITIMATE GRIEVANCES. NEGATIVE GOV DECISIONS
REGARDING CARGO SERVICE TO MARACAIBO AND THE REFUSAL OF THE
NEW YORK-CARACAS-NEW YORK FLIGHT ARE MANIFESTATION OF THIS.
CROWLEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRAVEL CONTROLS, FLIGHT CLEARANCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 jul 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CARACA06433
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780283-1142
Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780776/aaaclum.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4b07cf77-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 CARACAS 6287, 78 CARACAS 4243, 78 CARACAS 3126
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2057019
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOV DENIES PERMISSION FOR PANAM FLIGHT
TAGS: EAIR, VE, US, PANAM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4b07cf77-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014